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state there is, on an average, one automobile for every six persons.) Farmers, who, a few years ago, seldom went further than their nearest town now go many miles in their automobiles. When they reach a town new to them they want to see whatever is of interest. If all automobilists and other travelers knew a list such as the above could be found in the post-office they would first go there for information.

There is another important reason why such lists should be on exhibition in post-offices. It is very desirable that some person or persons in every community should know what has been written about their region. If those government and state publications pertaining to a region were listed and on sale at the post-offices, the postmasters and their assistants would know about them and through them this knowledge, which at present is confined to comparatively few, would be disseminated.

All this could be accomplished if congress should pass the following laws:

1. A law ordering the exhibition of a list of the publications pertaining to the region in which the post-office is situated, of somewhat the same character as that for Williamstown, Massachusetts.

2. A law ordering the scientific bureaus to send to each first, second, and third class post-office all of the government publications of local interest, and directing the postmasters to offer them for sale.

3. A law ordering that state publications be offered for sale by the postmasters if the state legislatures so direct.

It is hoped that all scientists and others interested will write to their congressmen urging the enactment of such a law as that outlined above so that our excellent government and state publications may become better known and so that our post-offices may become centers of greater usefulness.

HERDMAN F. CLELAND

SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

THE INSTITUTE OF HUMAN PALEONTOLOGY

ON December 23, 1920, the Institute of Human Paleontology in Paris was formally de-

clared open by Prince Albert of Monaco, its founder. The account in *Nature* states that the institute is situated in the Boulevard Saint Marcel. The building, which was nearing completion when war broke out, contains a large amphitheater for lectures and meetings, a spacious library, and a number of rooms fitted up as laboratories, for examining and photographing the material furnished by excavation. Collections of specimens from the sites which have already been explored, as well as reproductions of the paintings and drawings found on the walls of the French and Spanish paleolithic caves, are exhibited in the building. An endowment of two million francs is attached to the Prince of Monaco's foundation, and an additional sum has been promised should it be rendered necessary by any further increase in the cost of living. The institute is under the direction of M. Marcelin Boule, assisted by a council consisting of MM. Salomon Reinach, Dislère, Verneau and Louis Mayer.

Among those who were present at the opening ceremony were the President of the French Republic, M. Millerand, H.I.H. Prince Roland Bonaparte, M. Honnorat, then Minister of Public Instruction, the Belgian and Italian Ambassadors, the Argentine and Persian Ministers, M. Lacroix, secretary of the Academy of Sciences, the president of the Academy of Medicine, and representatives of the College of Medicine, the Collège de France, the Pasteur Institute, and the various scientific societies. An inaugural address was delivered by the Prince of Monaco, who defined the broad aims of human paleontology. At the conclusion of the prince's address brief speeches were made by M. Honnorat, minister of public instruction, M. Perrier, and M. Le Corbeiller, president of the Municipal Council, the last named speaking on behalf of the city of Paris. Lastly, M. E. Cartailhac, the veteran archeologist, expressed his joy at the creation of the institute, which, he said, had been his dearest wish throughout his career as an archeologist.

A NEW CANADIAN AGRICULTURAL JOURNAL

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